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WAR NOT A NECESSITY.

Captain Mahan is not very enthusiastic about the success of the plans of the friends of peace. He takes the view that wars are as inevitable as earthquakes. And not only are they inevitable but benevolent. For instance, he says, but for war Southern slavery would still have existed. The best way of bringing about an era of peace is, in the opinion of Captain Mahan, to make warfare so formidable that nations shrink from it. The world progresses upon "organized force." All of which proves that a man may be authority upon all subjects pertaining to naval affairs and yet argue like a scribbler on great questions of world-wide importance.

It is not true that wars are necessary for the same reasons that earthquakes cannot be prevented. They are necessary as long as human society is as imperfectly organized as it is now. Remove the imperfections in the organization, and wars will be impossible. It is not in the power of man to regulate or control the natural forces that cause earthquakes, but it is certainly possible to reconstruct society with a view to the elimination of wars. A united Italy, a united France, a confederation of German states, all prove the possibility of removing from limited areas the causes of strife and providing for other means of settling disputes. Let the evolution continue until there is a federation of the world, and there will be no war.

It is not true that war is beneficial. It is a curse to mankind, and not a blessing. Why did the glory of Greece pass away? Because her strongest and best men were killed off in war. Why did Spain make such a sorry spectacle during the late war? Because she lost in wars the strong men and retained the weaklings to propagate the race. How much greater would England be today but for the fact that so many of her strong men were killed off on foreign battlefields? Who can tell? France strewn the battlefields of Europe and Africa with the bones of her picked men. Is it any wonder that her armies were finally overpowered by the trained hosts of Moltke? Read the dreary story of the hideous results of barrack life and vice, and you will understand how war has become the curse of mankind. Wars destroy virtue. Wars weaken nations. It is the exploits of peace that make men and nations strong.

If we want examples of true heroism, we must read the story of Fox preaching through his prison gates, or Luther standing before his judges at Worms. Or we must follow the meek sisters of charity who sacrifice themselves in plague districts in order to administer to the wants of the sick and the dying. There are thousands of cases of heroism in daily life, in the pursuits of science and the devotion to duty and mercy, that deserve higher encomiums than ever chanted in praise of a war hero. These are facts often overlooked but none the less well established.

ONE OF DOUGLAS'S IDEAS.

Stephen A. Douglas was a character familiar in the annals of our Church history. He was at one time a friend of the Prophet Joseph. Later, for policy's sake, as it is believed, he turned against the Latter-day Saints in an effort to gain votes while a candidate for the Presidency of the United States. This occurred when Lincoln, Bell and Breckenridge were also running for that office. Douglas was overwhelmingly defeated.

That Mr. Douglas was in many respects, and especially in legal ability and in economic foresight, well qualified for the high office he sought, is recalled by a recent occurrence. According to the New York World, one of Bourke Cockran's "original ideas" - that the Governors of States should be members of boards of directors of corporations licensed by the States - was enacted into law in the State of Illinois more than fifty years ago through the efforts of Stephen A. Douglas. The Governor of that State is ex-officio a director of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, but of much more importance than this is the fact that that corporation has been obligated from the first to pay into the State treasury 7 per cent of its gross receipts.

The World maintains that if the people of this country had fully appreciated the importance of the principle which Mr. Douglas established in the case of one of the first of the land-grant railroads, they would have saved themselves a great deal of money, a prodigious growth of scandal and an incredible amount of agitation and demagoguery.

We are willing to concede the argument of our contemporary that Mr. Douglas's instinct in the matter of the Illinois Central was unerring. Valuable rights and property were to be conferred upon a corporation, and by his honesty and foresight these were to be paid for, not in a lump sum and not in bribe money, but annually forever by means of a percentage of its gross earnings. "If the principle thus laid down had been generally adopted at the time and adhered to scrupulously until the present day, how many shameful chapters of crime and corruption would never have been written, and how many years of struggle and expatriation would have been avoided?" It is significant, notwithstanding the

greatness of the learning of Mr. Douglas, the breadth and soundness of his views on public questions, and his growing popularity at the time, that Joseph Smith did not hesitate to tell him that when he should aspire to the presidential chair, he would be defeated if he lifted his voice against the Latter-day Saints. Both predictions were fulfilled.

CITIZENS PROTEST.

There are some signs indicating that the agitation for certain labor leaders are responsible, is becoming unpopular. In Minnesota, for instance, the citizens have taken a firm stand in defense of their rights. In the city of Ely a mass-meeting was held at which violence was condemned and declarations made guaranteeing protection to all men willing to work. The business men of the place, it seems, notified a certain agitator that they regarded him as a seditious person. Whereupon he was escorted to the train and sent away. From several neighboring mining towns, the dispatches tell of similar action. Citizens are coming forward in order to put down mobs. At Hibbing, the governor of the state met the strikers and told them that troops would be sent at the first sign of disorder.

The injury to business done by some strikes is such that the wonder is that some concerted action on the part of the public does not take place oftener than is really the fact. The example set by the citizens of Minnesota may be followed in other places, however. One kind of tyranny is as unbearable as any other kind, and American liberty must assert itself when menaced, no matter from what direction.

AUTOCRACY BREEDS ANARCHY.

Very few outside of Russia realize the utter failure of the paternal government of the Czar, to protect life and property, in the empire, or provide the means of development. Anarchy and misery seem to be in evidence, everywhere, but the reports that reach the outside world generally fail to convey the full truth.

General Alikhanoff who was assassinated a short time ago, was but a type of the creatures the Czar places in responsible positions. He was a man who regarded the people as the property of the tyrants. It is related of him that he even permitted his officers and men to outrage women. One of General Alikhanoff's officers, so the story goes, rode into Tiflis one day and inquired the meaning of a certain gathering then being held in the town hall. He was informed that it was a congress of women school teachers met to discuss an improved curriculum in the local schools. "The meeting must not go on," replied the officer. Then turning to his Cossacks, he said: "These women are yours." Fancy such outrages committed by government representatives.

The manner in which this officer collected taxes is described by a writer in the Boston Transcript, who was an eye witness to some of his exploits. Speaking of the destruction of the city of Koutais, he says:

"There is a clause in the terms of agreement between nations concerning the conduct of wars which reads: 'The attack or bombardment of towns, villages, habitations or buildings which are not defended is prohibited.' Koutais was not defended. The people were starving poor and unable to pay taxes. Alikhanoff was trying to collect the taxes with machine guns and light field artillery.

"There is another section adopted at the second convention Peace Conference at The Hague, which reads: 'Pillage is absolutely prohibited.' Yet I had not been half a day in Koutais when I saw shops pillaged and the loot carried off to the Cossacks' barracks in pushcarts. 'I saw a great many houses burned down, sometimes a whole block of buildings swept away. When I asked General Alikhanoff about this he told me frankly that his soldiers set fire to certain houses at his command, and of course they did not always have time to see that other houses did not burn also.' A little later I was in the village of Kevril, on the borders of the River Rion. General Alikhanoff ordered certain houses burned. As usual the soldiers did not have time to look after adjoining houses, and as there was a strong wind blowing up the Rion valley, the flames spread rapidly, and practically the entire village was wiped out."

A commission that succeeded in obtaining testimony concerning the deeds of this general on his expedition of "pacification," reported many revolting crimes committed by the Cossacks of his command. But the chief point is that the government quietly acquiesced in the wildest outrages. The Czar decorated Alikhanoff for his zeal and effectiveness, and gave him absolute power to deal with the provinces under his jurisdiction according to his own methods.

Paternal government has proved a dismal failure in Russia, though the Czar claims unlimited power. Anarchy prevails. And unless the people obtain hold of the reins, the reckless course of the government must end in a disastrous catastrophe. All eyes are now turned toward the third Duma that will be elected in accordance with a new ukase. Will it be in a position to suggest a remedy, or will it be merely a tool in the hands of the tyrants?

Sometimes democracy is blamed for outbreaks of anarchy, and it is thought the natural tendencies of old democracies is back to autocracy as a defense against such destructive agencies. But countries like Russia are less free from anarchy than any other country in the world. The remedy against the ills of anarchy is not a return to autocracy, but to honesty and impartiality in the administration of self-government.

Society says that all is well that ends well.

When a politician "hedges" it is because his "fences" are weak.

The country is all right so long as it does not go to automobile speed.

It was aurevoir and not adieu with Judge Pritchard and Governor Glenn.

Have the Koreans any rights that the Japanese are bound to respect?

Secretary Taft is so large that only a landslide could bury him, politically.

A Philadelphia firm advertises

"bathing suits reduced." Honi soit et cetera.

Do not take an immunity bath when the blood is over heated.

Taft won in the Ohio state committee. What will he do in the state convention?

Eugene Schmitz has appointed his board of supervisors. They will all go by the board.

Perhaps he was thinking of the "pie counter" when Dr. Wiley said "pie" is bad for man.

With the discovery of her great oil fields, Utah sits now lighted on a heaven kissing hill.

"Where is the yacht that Vander-bilt?" asks the Boston Transcript. In the van when built.

The coolness between the Taft and Foraker forces is causing them to have a hot time.

His friends insist on railroading Haywood back to Denver on a special train.

The government has brought suit against the powder trust. Now look out for a flareback.

The higher a balloon goes the nearer the portals of death rather than the gates of heaven are the occupants.

Evelyn Nesbit Thaw says that she isn't going to return to the stage. Congratulations to the stage.

It is proposed to make a new naval station on the Pacific. But may not Japan object? It would be well to ascertain before beginning.

Fort Yuma will have to take a back seat. Down in McLennan county, Texas, it has been a 149 degrees. This is a new record, only beaten in the nether regions.

The Illuminating Engineering Society of America is holding a convention in Boston. It should be able to shed light on all the problems of darkness.

Whenever a man loses in politics or court he generally wants to go "back to the Constitution," though he rarely knows where to look for it when he starts out.

The foundation stone of the Andrew Carnegie palace of peace was laid yesterday afternoon at Zoragvilt in the midst of the wooded park stretching from The Hague to Scheveningen, by M. Nelidoff, president of the second peace conference. May it be a rock of ages!

DIVORCE DECREASES IN ENGLAND.

Exchange.

Statistics relating to divorce in England and Wales show that only 775 petitions for divorce were filed in 1905, against 720 in 1904 and 839 and 824 in 1902 and 1903, respectively. Three hundred and twenty-three of the 1905 petitions were presented by wives. Decrees were granted to wives in 261 cases and to husbands in 262 cases.

THE MILITARY TAX.

Boston Herald.

"The military spirit is substantially a tax that every man should pay his country, preferably in personal service to the army," says General Frederick D. Grant. Hello! How long before young Americans will be serving their two or three years in the army, as they do in France and Germany? At the risk of being clapped into prison, I must mildly object to General Grant's pronouncement. For my part, I would rather see this military spirit less than more.

"The idea of the people of the United States in their neglect of preparations for defense is only equalled by their panic when serious trouble is threatened," is the Grand old man. Nevertheless, the "idiot" never failed to work when "serious trouble came," did it? And it never will.

GUILTY OF PATRIOTISM

Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegram.

It is said that Koreans who went to The Hague and made an ineffectual plea to the world in council assembled, in behalf of the country which is in process of being gobbled by Japan, intend to return home by way of France, England and the United States. It may be doubted whether it will be safe for them to return home at all. Japan does not note on them and the new emperor has to date to suit Japan. His first receipt is an order for the punishment of the Korean deputation which went to The Hague, and persons familiar with the way in which Orientals punish pernicious activity of the political variety will be inclined to advise those Koreans to remain away from their homes, which are happy homes no longer. Their crime was patriotism.

IN LAW-ABIDING NEW YORK.

New York Evening Post.

The inefficiency and corruption of the police in the performance of many of their duties have been so fully explicated as to enlighten even those who are not aware of the truth by actual experience. Burglars and pickpockets and petty thieves generally know that the police stand in with some of the kind and have granted to others license to prey in return for a betrayal of their nefarious competitors. The long list of undiscovered murders, like the pitiful inefficiency of the detective force as a whole, is well advertised, and emboldens a criminal to take chances, particularly in the outlying districts. Despite all this, if we may believe recent publications as to conditions in Chicago, New York is much more law-abiding and far less at the mercy of its criminals. Yet this ought not to blind the public to the fact that the present epidemic of crime cannot be checked save by insisting on an intelligent, vigorous and honest police, a swift-moving judicial machinery and inclusive enforcement of the city ordinances which make for law and order, like those relating to the carrying of deadly weapons.

JUST FOR FUN.

"The wall paper hangers charged so much that Knockley put the paper on himself." "Dear me, how odd he must have looked." -Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Who is the sleek, prosperous-looking man?" "That's Josherley. He made \$50,000 out of a book he wrote, showing how to live on 90 cents a week." -Chicago Record-Herald.

"How many ribs have you, Johnny?" asked the teacher. "I don't know, ma'am," sighed Johnny, squinting around on one foot. "I'm so awful ticklish I never could count 'em." -Everybody's.

Barber: "Thank you sir, I don't often

get my tip before I begin. I'm sure I appreciate—" Customer (who like his hair cut in silence): "I don't want you to consider that a tip. It's 'hush' money." -Punch.

"If I give you a dime," remarked the benevolent old gentleman, "what assurance have I that you will not go off and get intoxicated?" "Sir," exclaimed the weary wayfarer, with a remnant of pride, "do I look like a person who could get intoxicated on a dime?" -Philadelphia Record.

Bill Nye, the humorist, once had a cow to sell and advertised her as follows: "Owing to my ill-timings I will sell at my residence, in township nineteen, range eighteen, according to the government's survey, one plump raspberry cow, aged eight years. She is of undoubted courage and gives milk frequently. To a man who does not fear death in any form she would be a great boon. She is very much attached to her present home with a staychain, but she will be sold to anyone who will agree to treat her right. She is one-fourth Short-horn and three-quarters hyena. I will also throw in a double-barrel shotgun, which goes with her. In May she usually goes away for a week or two and returns with a tall red calf with curdy legs. Her name is Rose. I would rather sell to a nonresident." -Judge's Library.

The people didn't merely look at Prof. Banefox, they stared at him. He knew he was absent-minded at times, and he wondered whether he had rubbed his face with boot polish instead of cold cream after he had shaved, or whether he had forgotten to change his dressing gown for his frock coat. But a kindly policeman put things right. "Are you sure, sir, that you are carrying a joint of beef in your arms?" he asked. "Goodness me!" said the professor. "I knew something was wrong. My wife told me to put her Sunday hat on the bed, to place this roast in the oven and to take the baby and the dog for a walk." "You've not put the baby in the oven, surely?" said the law's guardian. "I put something on her," said Banefox, "but I don't know whether it was the baby or the dog!" With bated breath they hurried to the professor's house. Here, on the bed, lay the baby and the dog, but it was just as bad for Banefox. It was his wife's Sunday hat that was in the oven! -Tit-Bits.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The August fiction number of McClure's is an illustration of the development which has taken place in this magazine during the past year. The fiction number of 1906 was remarkably good. The fiction number of 1907 shows a marked growth in the distinctive quality of its stories, the power and authoritative value of its articles, and the general broadening and deepening of its editorial policy. The Orchard confession appears in its second instalment. Truman Bartlett, the American sculptor, contributes an strikingly illuminating study of Lincoln's physiognomy. The seven-page article of the Christian Science series takes up the most interesting aspect of the whole mesmerist movement. The fiction in this number is unusually strong and distinctive. The August McClure's is one of the most beautifully illustrated numbers of the year. The splendid photographs of Lincoln, with their illuminating commentary by Mr. Bartlett, are one of the most interesting features. "The Great North Road" has color illustrations by Keller, while Hendra, Child, Steele and Wright each contributes artistic drawings. -The S. S. McClure Co., New York.

The August Travel Magazine will follow the policy of the two preceding summer numbers and devote itself chiefly to American vacations. Through the White Mountains by Motor Car, and on Foot, by Walter Pritchard Eaton is an account of a trip in which mountain climbing for sunrises; golf, folk dances and camping charmed a moonlit way. "Picturesque Marblehead" by Mary H. Northend tells about one of the examples of that American development - a modern summer resort of an old town. Jean McIlwraith's "A Salt Water Vacation in Canada" describes the delights of a summer vacation on the shores of the St. Lawrence. In "Cruising in a Rowboat" near Richmond, Virginia, of making the circuit of Manhattan's 35 miles of water line, a novel exploit for a summer day in town. Automobileing in England," by Chas. Quincy Turner, describes a trip from Plymouth to London, through the Lorna Doone country. These are only a few of the many excellent features of this number. -\$32 Fourth Avenue, New York.

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